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The South Will Not Commit Political Suicide.

We print to-day a letter from a gentleman of Albemarle county, Va., in which he discusses the subject of the "effect of the recent Presidential election on the South "after a very gloomy fashion. The spirit of the letter is suggested in his description of himself as "an old Democrat who has survived his party."

That is, this Virginian assumes and often repeats that all hope of any resuscitation of the Democratic party so that it shall ever again return to Federal power is finally abandoned in the South unless the Republican party should chance to split up, and such an opportunity for the Democracy he regards as beyond the range of probability.

The Southern people, he says, "have shandoned all thoughts of ever having another Democratic President." They have come to the conclusion that "no man now living is ever likely to see the downfall of the Republican party." "The recent Mont Pelée avalanche of a Presidential election," he continues, "removes the South absolutely from any further active participation in Federal politics; she will take little part in any future Presidential election and the attention of the Southern people will be turned hereafter wholly to the promotion of the material prosperity of the South."

This despondent Virginian admits, however, that "after all, the South has but little cause of complaint of many of the Republican policies" sustained by so great a majority of the American people at the election, for these were "secretly favored by the Southern Democrats. For example, "it is known to all intelligent men who have studied the situation that the South favors the general principle of a protective tariff," and also "the legitimate expansion of our territory," for the reason that the South has "the monopoly of cotton, the growth of which is capable of indefinite expansion." "The Republican party," he proceeds, "had a definite policy on all great public questions, but the Democratic party relied on simple opposition without defining any specific ground" and "except for the unfortunate Booker Washington incident, President Roose-VELT would have made a still greater inroad on the Southern vote, for prior to that incident he was very popular at the South." Moreover, "the bugaboo of 'imperialism' " frightened nobody.

All the same, this Virginian predicts and announces that "the South has fought her last battle in Federal politics.'

When ANDREW JACKSON was elected President in 1828, after an extremely bitter contest, by a majority of the popular and electoral votes relatively as great as that received by Mr. ROOSEVELT, very much the same feeling prevailed among people of Federalist prejudices. Some of them even threatened to leave the country for good, as abandoned to the devil. Actually none of them exiled themselves on that account. At the late election more than six million American citizens voted for Mr. PARKER, and as we have said before, far more of them were citizens of Northern than of Southern States. The Democratic party was beaten, but it was not crushed. It is still alive and vigorous in every State of the Union, and its prospects of regaining Federal power are better now than, for example, they seemed after the defeat of HORACE GREELEY in 1872.

The Democracy will live to fight again, and in 1908 the citizens of the Southern States are likely to be more actively and more generally engaged in Federal politics than at any time since the war. They will not commit political suicide in a fit of petulance over the defeat of the party to which they gave their votes at the election of 1904.

Agitation for Exclusion of Japanese.

Agitation for the restriction of Japanese immigration to the United States goes on steadily. Practically all the trade unions are now enlisted in the movement, though the agitation has been pushed more actively in the West than in the East, for here workingmen are not afraid of Asiatic competition.

Several unsuccessful attempts have been made to induce Congress to pass laws prohibiting the admission of Japanese laborers, and now the American Federation of Labor, at its convention in San Francisco, has adopted unanimously a resolution calling for the exelusion of Japanese laborers not merely from the continent of the United States, but also from our insular possessions. Doubtless the matter will again be brought forward as soon as Congress meets in December.

The labor leaders contend that the Japanese work long hours at low wages, and put down the price of labor, to the detriment of workingmen unable or unwilling to live as cheaply.

The Japanese in this part of the Union, as everybody who has employed them has reason to know, do not work for low wages. The great mass of them here are domestic servants, and usually they get wages closely approximating those paid to men servants of other nationalities, more especially when they are at all proficient in our language. Even fresh arrivals from Japan demand good wages. They are far from penurious, being somewhat remarkable for careful attention to their dress, and their scale of living generally is far from low. On the ships of the navy the servants are

They are jutelligent men, and know on which side their bread is buttered.

It is true that at the West, in the Rocky fountain mining camps, there are some Japanese who work for relatively small wages. In Hawaii and the Philippines also their wages may be lower than the union labor standard in this country, but they are not low by the standard for Asiatic labor prevailing there.

Moreover, is it practicable for the United States to deal with the Japanese as it is dealing with Chinamen? Japan has entered the ranks of civilization as a first class Power. Japan has demonstrated its prowess on sea and on land and must be treated with respect. China, asleep and non-resistant, might be forced to accept a treaty humiliating to its rulers and disadvantageous to its people; but Japan is strong, alert and fully able to assert its rights. It may be assumed that Japan would angrily resent and stoutly resist such a discrimination as the labor unions propose, as an insult to a great and a friendly Power distinguished for its enlightenment. Japan may refuse peremptorily.

This is true in particular of the demand

for the exclusion of the Mikado's people from the Philippine Islands, and it is an important factor in the case. If Japan should be triumphant in her war with Russia she would find an outlet for her surplus population in the new possessions she would obtain. If Japan was defeated her people might be reduced to such straits that a great wave of emigration to the Philippines, Hawaii and this country would result. In the one case a Japanese "invasion' of this country would not be imminent and the agitation for anti-Japanese legislation would be likely to cease. In the other the situation would become acute, and a new and difficult political-diplomatic situation would arise.

A Point in the Cotton Business. The cotton mills of Fall River have been idle for four months. The output of one of our most important cotton centres has been suspended during a time of relative national prosperity. Arguing from a strictly normal basis, it is fair to say that the curtailment of supply on such an extensive scale should have resulted in a market shortage, either present or prospective, and a consequent enhancement in the market price of cotton goods. On the other hand, it might be presumed that so great a lessening of the consumption of raw cotton would show a decided influence on the market for the staple.

In neither case have the facts justified the natural and legitimate inferences. The market for cotton goods has been little or not at all affected by the absence of the usual supply from Fall River, and raw cotton has been taken by ready demand at good prices. Were we in the midst of a period of contraction, or dull times, the case would be materially altered. As it stands, it is no more than a fair assumption to regard every spindle in Fall River as superfluous in our national economy. This is a somewhat startling statement, but the circumstances appear to warrant it.

Even more may be said. Fall River is not the only point where idle spindles may be found in this country. There are idle mills, and mills with idle spindles, in both North and South. This indicates that we are overequipped with facilities | are continued with advanced apparatus. for producing the cotton required for In the third, geography is added, and almost petty export trade

The world uses, annually, manufacvalue of \$1,500,000,000. Growing a full two-thirds of all the raw cotton, we manufacture 23 per cent. of the annual requirements of the finished goods. We consume 90 per cent. of our manufacture here at home, and export the almost insignificant remainder. Deducting our own consumption from the world total. it will be seen that we supply only about 3 per cent. of the requirements of the world outside our boundaries. In the possibility that the United

States may some day exercise a commercial energy which would lead to a more extensive use of our own raw material, and a predominance in the world market for cotton goods, ex-Premier MÉLINE of France sees the possible extermination of the European cotton industry. Under present circumstances, there is certainly little ground for any such apprehension. So long as we are content to export our raw material and sit in satisfied contemplation of long rows of idle spindles, Europe need not worry. So long as we refuse to recognize the facts that every group of whirling spindles would mean a wage-earner, that every wage-earner means a consumer, and that every wage-earning consumer is a customer for the product of shop and farm, M MÉLINE need not be uneasy about European mills. It is our own fault if we do not control the cotton market of the world.

German Colonies in Brazil,

The present migration of German farmers in the Brazilian State of Rio Grande do Sul is a very interesting movement. Hundreds of young men and married people are leaving the homes their fathers made in the centre of the State. They are pushing straight into the forests 150 to 200 miles north and northwest of the old settlements and are clearing away the timber, fencing the cleared lands, building log cabins and starting life anew. Among them are many women and children; and their struggle is like that of our fathers when they won their fields by felling the forests almost all the way from the Atlantic

to the Mississippi. About 200,000 German farmers live in Rio Grande do Sul. The old country has sent them few recruits for many years. Their large numbers are chiefly due to the big families they raise and the very small death rate among the children in that temperate climate. They are really getting overcrowded

in the old settlements. Accordingly, some time ago Dr. HERR-MANN MEYER of Leipzig advised the young men to take their wives and children and strike out for themselves in the the ships of the navy the servants are usually Japanese and they are well paid. that it would be foolish for them to settle

near their fathers, where land is high and the Government is beginning to impose onerous taxes. They all knew that the soil of the forest lands is exceedingly rich. Humus has been thickening under the trees for generations, and no better farm lands can be found anywhere than in that region when once the timber is

Dr. MEYER took them up the river valleys far to the northwest, where great spaces have been cleared and two centres of colonization have been formed. These have just appeared on a few maps

as New Wurtemberg and Xingu. The Deutsche Kolonialzeitung has just printed a series of photographs showing the beginnings of life in these thick, dark woods. The first roof to cover the colonists is a thatch of grass laid over rafters, one end of the rafters resting on the ground and the other on a ridgepole. As soon as sufficient space is cleared a better cabin is built. In a few months the clearing is large enough for a fair sized field, fences are erected and crops are sown. Horses, oxen, pigs and poultry are shown in the pictures.

Dr. ALFRED FUNKE writes that these colonies are making remarkable progress. In the settlement of New Wurtemberg over 2,000 vines have begun to bear fruit. In some branches of agriculture and in stock raising the colonists are beginning to reap better proportionate results than in the old settlements. There is no new European material among these hardy pioneers They are all sons of Brazil, though most of them are pure blooded Germans. What they most need is better means of transporting their crops to market, but the Government of Rio Grande do Sul shows no disposition to extend a railroad to them; in fact, it evinces no especial interest in the welfare of the new enterprises.

The Government of the State has for years been opposed to further immigration from Germany. Dr. FUNKERAYS that in the official reports for the last three years this opposition has been very plainly expressed, and the Frankfurter Zeitung asserts that the Brazilian official class believes that the Germans are getting too much political influence in that country. This feeling of the Brazilians cannot be called unreasonable. German designs on South America are suspected.

The friends of the new colonists in Germany are inviting capitalists to ascertain if it will not pay to build a railroad to them. The German Colonial Society has just established an agricultural experiment station at New Wurtemberg and proclaims that there is room for 200,000 German farmers in this region and that fresh life will be given to German enterprises in Brazil by these new colonies in the timber zone.

Good Work in the Philippines.

In March and April of this year 227,000 children were in the public schools of the Philippine Islands. Of these, 220,-000 were in some one of the three years of the primary course, and doubtless the vast majority of them will never do more than complete these three years.

In the first year of the primary course reading, writing, spelling, arithmetic and object work intended to cultivate the power of observation are the prescribed studies. In the second, these studies our home consumption and for our there are courses in business, buying and selling, contracting, loans, interest security and commission, for the benefit tured cotton goods of an approximate of boys who cannot take the intermediate and secondary courses. Such boys are also to be organized into clubs, in which they are to be taught the rules and procedure governing the conduct of a meeting, the election of officers, the making of a motion, debate and voting. Toward the close of the year the club will organize itself as a municipal government, and at each meeting there will be explained the municipal and provincial governments, the powers and duties of officers and the rights and

duties of citizens. The intermediate grades, three in number, bring the students to the science studies and prepare them for the secondary courses of the high schools. which fit the students for entrance into

college or university. The number of pupils in the primary schools, we are told in the report of Mr. DAVID P. BARROWS, the General Super intendent of Education, must be about doubled before the instruction is placed within the reach of every Filipino child between the ages of 6 and 14 years. That s, enough schoolhouses, school teachers, school furniture and school books to give continuous instruction to 400,000 children are required. "If this standard can be reached and maintained for a period of ten years," says Mr. BARROWS, we will, broadly speaking, have no illiterate youth among the Filipino people." But the schools are already overcrowded and deficient in trained Filipino teachers, and suitable provisions for the additional scholars would require a doubling of the appropriations for current educational expenses from

both local and insular sources. It is interesting to find that physical development as taught in the Japanese schools is to have a "conspicuous and important" place in the Philippine

courses of study. As a whole, the reports of the Superintendent of Education are highly creditable to him and to the government of the islands.

Working Girls' Homes.

A boarding house for working girls whose wages are not more than \$10 a week has been opened in East Fiftyeighth street. The rooms are full. There is none of the impertment and vexatious restrictions with which divers philanthropists have frightened away working girls from homes and hotels specially intended for them. It is hard to get it out of the heads of some worthy men and women that self-respecting women are not going to pay as boarders and be treated as suspicious characters that need watching and can't be trusted with much liberty.

They want a cosey, bright, pleasant house to live in and civilized food to The wonder is that anybody ever grew at all.

eat; but they are used to taking care of themselves. There are no prouder women, and they won't stand valuable advice and directions, full sets of rules

and regulations, and a general disposition on the part of the management to treat them as precious little boarding school misses that can't say boo to a goose and must be tucked up and locked in at 8 P. M. sharp.

There musts be in this town a multitude of working girls and women that are strangers here and have no relations to live with. The pay of most of them is so small that only the poorest kind of a boarding house is within their reach. They are exposed to many mortifications, and they have to lead lonely and unsocial lives. They get little or no amusement. They are very lucky if they get enough

of proper and nourishing food. The trouble with the women's hotels s that they are essentially for comparatively well-to-do women, those that have an income, or the aristocracy of the wage-earners. What is the average pay of the grown-up working girl? Is it more than \$5? In this new boarding house she can get a cot in a double room for \$3 to \$3.50 a week. Add her fare, her washing, her clothes, the little "sundries" that eat up remorselessly the little balance. She will not deposit a great deal of money in the savings bank. Boarding houses are most needed by

limit than the \$10. Russian Red Cross Women

From the Fortnightly Review. In all these months of war and bloo patient endurance of the sisters of the Red Cross has been the one redeeming feature in the mass of corruption and degenerate manhood which now describes the Manchurian army. In this reference I do not allude to women of social position, wh prove as troublesome to the Russian authorities as did a similar plague to Lord Milner in South Africa. The hard working, earnest, practical little women, ignorant but industrious, who devote their time to the welfare of the Russian soldiers, make a beautiful picture. They are fearless. They en dure the same fatigues as the soldiers, and, as recent events have proved, they sacrifice very willingly their lives to save their charges. I do not think the any war has produced more touching examples of fidelity to duty than those offered by these badly dressed, plain faced, sweet natured nurses, as they trudge through the rains, through the heat and the dust and the snows of Manchuria. These women quite delight in their calling, and in spite of the muster in large numbers to the roll call when their services are demanded. I have made inquiries about the conditions regulating their service with the troops, and, certainly on the score of remuneration or generous treatment, there is nothing attractive

A Criticism of a Medical Address

To the Editor of the Sun-Sir: The widely published address on the Japanese Medical Service delivered before a local medical society, departed from its proper sphere when it criticised the morals of the Russian soldiers from brigadier down t corporal. The hope for the moral regeneration of Russia though a defeat at the hands of the Japa nese was also in poor taste in a supposedly pro ssional paper submitted to scientific men. The methods of education at West Point and Annapolis were also denounced by the speake although he must have known that they are far superior in their results to those of educators in his

own profession. In medicine a man may take away a great deal of knowledge with his degree, but he has had mights little education in his art meantime. If the faculty at West Point had the same opportunity to teach actual warfare every day of their course that the medical men have to teach disease the students would not be left to learn the better part of their art the exercise of their profession after graduation New YORK, Nov. 23.

Japan and the English Alphabet.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: You quo Prince Fushimi as credited with saying that the Mikado's Government favors the adoption of the Roman characters to replace the present metho writing, but the report can hardly be taken

I have been a resident of Japan and can assure yo that it would be impossible to reproduce accurately the sounds of the Japanese language with our alphabet of twenty-six characters, although it has tempted for the use of foreigners in trying to acquire the language. A nation of forty-five million people can hardly change their language at will. Moreover, more than thirty million have never seen a Roman character as ye

I firmly believe that the Kata-kana and the Hiragana of the Japanese and the ideographs of the Chinese will continue to hold absolute sway in the Island Empire for many generations to come. Let some Japanese resident of New York or else-where express his views on the subject.

C. L. F. DURAIN. NEW YORK, Nov. 23.

New Chapter in the Book of Snobs TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: "Scorner of Snobs" suggests the proper way for employers of labor to treat their employees, pleasantly, &c., but there is a pharisalcal tone about his letter which leads me to question him closely.
"Employees" include domestic servants,

course. Now, when his cook or housemaid has an afternoon or evening out, and he meets her on the street, does he both speak pleasantly and raise his hat? Is he quite sure he would stand aside to let them enter a shop or street car first? If there were no unoccupied seats in the car would be offer then his! If he employs or should employ a butler o footman whose habit it is to touch the cap or ha brim when receiving an order, does he invariably Born and bred a snob myself, I shall probably

continue one in my present snobbish environment till my death. I only ask honesty in others, and I beg the "scorner" not to spare himself in his reply. NEW YORK, Nov. 23.

Reform in Russia. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I notice your xcellent editorial upon "Russia's Progress Toward Representative Government," in which you say "Nor is it now any secret that the real authors o neiters of the Czar's assassination were not Nihil ists, but reactionists —from the reform tendency.

The assassination of the Czar has always been used as a text for sermons on the futility of violence as a means of reform, and certainly if it had been done by Nihilists it would illustrate that point. It does not seem so clear in regard to Von Plehve's assassination. Would it have been possible for these reforms of which you speak to have been ut through had Von Plehve lived? NEW YORK, Nov. 22. BOLTON HALL.

A Ship as a Wedding Gift.

From the Menorah. A rich Jewish merchant of Smyrna presented his daughter with a ship as a wedding present, and called the vessel "Esther Estorogo," after the girl. The name is inscribed on the ship in Hebrew letters.

Meditation on Modern Science. From the Chicago Tribune.

They tell us that for centuries man has made grave In coping with his sicknesses, his fevers and his And when we meekly try to tell what grandma used to do To cure a cold or stop a chill, the doctors cry "Pooh! The face of old Hippocrates is turned against the wall.

The wonder is that anybody ever grew at all.

They tell us that the carpets and the big uphol-stered chairs.

The wells and cisterns and the rest of all the old Wore most insanitary, and whoever drew a breath Within a rod of one of them was simply courting death.

They're burning sulphur in the chest with grandmas quilts and shawi—
The wonder is that anybody ever grew at all.

They tell us that our mothers and grandmothers all were wrong—
In fact, they roast great-grandma in some language that is strong.

And great-great-grandma comes in, too, for criticism rough—
Because they let their children eat so much unhealthy stuff.

And, oh, they vow twas wicked that they did not let us bawi—
The wonder is that anybody ever grew at all.

They tell us that the infant who arrived a month Is handicapped by him or her of this last day or so, Because the newer children have the vastly greater chance of profitting by science in its very last advance. The memories of childhood are the sort that should FEELING AT THE SOUTH.

Very Remarkable Expression of It by a Gentleman of Virginia.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE BUN-Sir: NOW that the clouds have rolled away and the shock has passed, the result of the recent Presidential election is not altogether as bad as we of the South expected. In the light of subsequent events it is easy to note the causes of the great Democratic down Since 1876 the Democratic party has a precarious existence because of the fatal blow then struck at republican institutions in North America by the Electoral

If President Roosevelt had been defeated in the recent election, in all human probability that would not have prevented him from becoming the next President. It would have been perfectly convenient for the defeated candidate to state that the Southern people had cheated the negroes out of their votes and enough States would have been thrown out to insure Republican supremacy. Who doubts it? The precent of the Electoral Commission stands as the law of the land. If the courage of Samuel J. Tilden had equalled his intellect, a different result would have occurred.

But, after all, the South has but little cause for complaint; for it is a fact that many Republican policies were favored secretly by the Southern Democrats, and it is undoubtedly true that the difference between the two platforms was very small. It is known to all intelligent men who have studied the situation that the South favors the general principles of a protective tariff. It also strongly favors the legitimate exthe wage-earners who are nearer the \$5 pansion of our territory because it will give us new markets, which we greatly need We have the monopoly of cotton, the growth of which is capable of indefinite expansion If a market for manufactured cotton goods is ever obtained in China alone that mean a crop of twenty millions of bales of tencent cotton.

The Republican party had a definite policy upon all great public questions, but the Democratic party relied on simple opposi tion without defining any specific ground Except for the unfortunate Booker Washington incident a still greater inroad would have been made on the Southern vote Prior to that incident President Roosevel was very popular at the South. Even now he has in the South many friends who are Democrats, and the people generally of that section wish well of his administration and sincerely hope it may be successful, and they will throw no obstacle in its way They contemplate the fact that they wil have to make a great sacrifice, but they are prepared to make it.

They expect the right of suffrage to be taken from them in great part, thus materially reducing their representation in Congress. Crumpacker of Indiana and his kind will compel it. Although none of the rights of the negroes has been taken from them by the new Constitutions of the Southern States, still the charge has been made, and the determination to reduce their representation in Congress has been made a formal plank in the Republican plat form. Our people have not the least idea that President Roosevelt will be able to resist the pressure which will be brought to bear upon him to put into practice this part of the platform It is true that it cannot honestly be done without reducing pro portionately the representation in New York, Massachusetts and other Northern States which have similar Constitutions. However, the limitations of the Constitution will not avail, and a way will be found whereby the representation of the South will be eriously reduced without affecting any Northern State.

We are willing to give up this representa tion, especially as we cannot prevent it, provided the negroes are also disfranchised t will really have less effect than one would think, because the attitude of the South from this time forth will be one of "dignified neutrality." Our people have abandoned all thought of ever having another Democratic President, and no man now living is ever likely to see the downfall of the Republican party. The Electoral Commission will enable the party to perpetuate its power. It must be remembered that the South for years before and during the days of reconstruction was deprived of her Constitutional rights. She has learned wisdom from experience and looks with great equanimity upon holding the position of a conquered province. prefers a republican form of government, but at the same time will be satisfied with any form which protects the personal security, the personal liberty and the private property of her people. To obtain these three great rights she is willing to give up absolutely the right of her people to vote at any future Presidential election.

All that she expects to do is to preserve her local self-government. The vast ownership by Northern people of Southern property will guarantee this right. nembers of any party are willing to run the gantlet of another reconstruction-experience and self-interest will prevent it.

The South is eminently conservative, It detests and abhors socialism in all its forms That noxious plant will never make anything more than a stunted growth in the Southern States. The South does not want the governmental ownership of railroads, for it would add too much to the power of this Government, already too strong, and probably convert it into a bureaucracy like Russia. The change from our present form of government to a limited monarchy would arouse no particular apprehension at the South, but an absolute monarchy would be regarded with dread and might bring forth a revolution, and the South is sick and tired of revolutions Above everything, she wants peace. One of the most beneficent results of the

recent Mont Polés avalanche of a Presidential election is the fact that it removes the South absolutely from any further active participation in Federal politics No sane man ever expects the election of a Democratic President from the South, and experience has taught us the impossibility of electing a Northern Democrat. The South is not obtuse. It fully recognizes the present situation and regards the recent election as a distinct and most important epoch in the history of our Government. The attention of the Southern people will be turned hereafter to the promotion of her material prosperity. Federal politics will cut no figure. She will take but little part in any future Presidential election. If there is a split in the Republican party, possibly it may exolte a languid interest in sup porting the wing which promises her the most. She is satisfied to have in President Roosevelt a monarch of limited powers She believes that the knowledge of having such great power will be a check upon him and regard for his own reputation will prevent him from going to excesses Another effect of the recent election will

be the fact that the South will do everything honorably in her power to induce the ne groes to emigrate to the North and the West. An effort is already on foot to offer the heads of negro families a large pecuniary bonus to induce them to emigrate. No force or improper arguments will be used. They have been the source to us of enormous trouble, and we recognize the fact, that every one that goes is to that extent a relief, and to us is is a source of great con-

gratulation that the emigration is steedily increasing. Our energies will be devoted to obtaining that legislation which will promote our material interests, and in this connection I will allude again to the wish of the South to have a protective tariff and legitimate territorial expansion that will ecessitate a large army and particularly a

The state of the s

large navy, both of which she favors. The bugbear of so-called imperialism probably did not influence a single vote in

he recent election. I close this paper, already too long, by speating that the South has fought her ast political battle in Federal politics.

AN OLD DEMOCRAT WHO HAS SURVIVED HIS PARTY. ALBEMARLE COUNTY, Va., Nov. 23.

REDEEMING ARID LANDS. Interesting Features of the Reclamation

Service's Work. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The ngineers of Uncle Sam's reclamation service now engaged in solving the difficult problems incident upon the irrigation of nillions of acres of arid public lands in the inter-mountain country, are often at work in regions which possess remarkable historical and archeological interest.

In the valley of the Salt River the lines of modern canals follow closely the ditches of the ancient races which once densely populated it. The excavations of the cientific ditching machine uncovered the irrigating canals of lost races, the records of which are shrouded in the gloom of pas centuries. Many of these aucient canals show a knowledge of engineering, and all bear evidence of the patience and industry of their builders. Although construction took place doubtless before the age of metals, these canals in many places were cut through solid rock at a cost of time and labor which t is impossible for us now to more than faintly conjecture.

Down in the lower valley of the Rio Grande in this country, Government engineers for many years have studied the problems of flood storage, and have made exhaustive researches for feasible and adequate reservoir sites. Since the passage of the irrigation law the engineers of the service have pursued these investigations industriously and an especially fine reservoir site has been located which promises to transform a wonderful desert valley into one of our most

productive and populous sections. A peculiar interest attaches to the se lection of this reservoir site from the fact that the region which is to be benefited by the waters conserved in it is to-day being irrigated by the oldest irrigation systems in use in this country. This portion of the Rio Grande basin is known as the Mesilla Valley, and lies on both sides of the river, between two spurs of the Rocky Mountains. Beginning at the north at Fort Seldon it extends almost to the corporate limits of El Paso on the south, a distance of fiftyfive miles. In width it varies from five to seven miles. On the east and west its boundaries are the lofty ranges of mountains, the highest of which-the Organ Mountains-rise to a height of 8.000 feet above the sea. The general elevation of he valley is almost 4,000 feet.

Irrigation canals and ditches constructed o long ago that the date is forgotten are being used to-day in much the same primitive manner in which the ancestors of the

tive manner in which the ancestors of the present race used them, nor have the methods of agriculture changed to any appreciable extent among these descendants of old Mexico's pioneers to the United States. They are indeed strikingly like those practised by the farmers of Spain ever since the fifteenth century.

The method of raising wheat among the Mexican irrigators of the valley is not unlike that which prevailed a thousand years before the Christian era. The tillers of the soil in the days of the Pharaohs, if they could be called back, would require no training to take a position on one of these Mexican farms. Early in the springtime the Mexican and his family journey forth into the fields and collect and burn the forests of weeds which have accumulated during the preceding summer. Then lated during the preceding summer. Then goeth forth the sower, equipped with a pailful of wheat, which he scatters broadcast over the land. The ploughman sollows, driving generally a small pony. the surface of the ground is stirred. seldom to a depth of more than three hes. Then the field is divided into inches. Then the field is divided into square beds by furrows turned up by the plough, the edges being raised by high borders to hold the water. The squares are filled with water from the ditches, the water being applied again and again, until the soil is thoroughly saturated. The Mexican haciendado now becomes a gentleman of leisure, with "time to burn." He squats in the sun or in the shade of his adobe but, and cigarette in hand watches adobe hut, and cigarette in hand watches

Dame Nature hustle for him. Early in June, with his family, which in-cludes sons, cousins and nephews, he pro-ceeds to the field, armed with his sickle, ceeds to the field, armed with his sickle, manufactured at a very remote date, and cuts the crop. The straw is left standing, as it has no value to the Mexican. The grain is brought to the threshing floor, which is made of beaten mud. A herd of goats or sheep, and often ponies, is brought up and driven round and round until the grain is threshed out. This will call to mind the Biblical description of "treading of the corn." The short straw is now raked away, leaving the wheat and chaff. Now follows the winnowing, which is performed as was it in the days of Abraham. The grain is tossed high in the air and the wind carries away the chaff.

Corn is second in importance as a crop in Mesilla Valley. The seed is sown at intervals in a small furrow by hand. As soon as the plant shows up well the rows are

as the plant shows up well the rows are hilled, and throughout the season the fields are frequently irrigated. Wheat and corn are usually planted in rotation. Alfalfa are requently irrigated. Wheat and coin are usually planted in rotation. Alfalfa is a very important crop in the valley, and its value for forage is fully recognized. Being a perennial plant requiring but one planting, it is very popular with the Mexican agriculturist. The present systems are wasteful of water, and owing to the careless forming the crop visids are very

can agriculturist. The present systems are wasteful of water, and owing to the careless farming, the crop yields are very light. Lately all the irrigators have been complaining of shortage of water. The construction of immense canals in Colorado on the headwaters of the Rio Grande has greatly lessened the flow of the stream, and there is a crying need of storage to hold back the great spring floods now wholly unutilized and run to waste.

The reservoir site is at Elephant Butte, and is described as one of the most favorable locations for storage found in the West. The reservoir will be forty miles in length, and its capacity will be 2,000,000 acre feet, or ample for the 180,000 acres of land to be supplied by it.

The cost of the project, including reservoir and all diversion works and canals above El Paso, is estimated at \$7,200,000, or \$40 per acre on 180,000 acres. This is below the value of irrigated land in the valley, and those best informed pronounce the project desirable at the price. The main item of cost is the dam, which will require 300,000 barrels of cement, a large amount of machinery, gates etc., entailing quire 300.000 barrels of cement, a large amount of machinery, gates, etc., entailing a very heavy outlay for freight. It is esti-mated that the dam will cost approximately \$5,300,000. As projected the dam will be arched up stream and on a six degree curve, e up-stream edge or crest having a radius 955.4 feet. Its dimensions are as follows: eight of dam from bed rock formation Height of dam from bed rock formation to top of parapet walls or crest, 255 feet; thickness at bottom, 180 feet; on top, 20 feet; length of crest, 1,150 feet. The roadway is five feet below the crest, between parapet walls on each side, and is fourteen feet wide. The spillway, at a natural gap on the west side of the valley, is several miles above the dam, and about 175 feet above the level of the present river bed. It will have a total length of 800 feet.

At a public meeting recently held in the valley a resolution was unanimously adopted declaring in favor of the project and urg-

declaring in favor of the project and urg-ing Congress to pass legislation to enable lands in Texas to be benefited by this recervoir and contribute to its cos

C. J. BLAFCRARD. United States Reclamation Service. WASHINGTON, Nov. 22.

RENOVATING ST. PETER'S.

Marble Altar to Replace Wood-Ionio

Old St. Peter's Church, in Barclay street, being renovated for the first time since it was built, more than seventy years ago. The expensive decorations and new altars, to cost \$50,000, are given by the Smith family as a memorial to their mother, Mrs. Anna Smith, who was one of the most

charitable women in the parish. Though the altars are to be new, the old time Ionic style of decoration will be followed, to keep the whole edifice in harmony with the old world spirit it breathes.

When it become known by the congregation that remodeling was to be done many of the older parishioners protested against any change, saying, "Leave the old church as it is. We don't want the new paint; the walls grown dingy with age are dear to us. It will not be the same St. Peter's; it will be modern, if new paintings and altars are to replace the old ones. But Father McGean convinced the parish-

loners that to preserve the church it must be remodelled and repainted. be remodelled and repainted.

The middle altar is to be a duplicate, in Carrara marble, of the old wooden one. The sanctuary will be widened, and, with the side altars, built outseveral feet into the middle of the church. The floor is to be

middle of the church. The floor is to be laid in mosaic.

When the remodelling is completed, the painting of the crucifixion of St. Peter, presented to the church more than one hundred years ago by the King of Spain will again be placed in its former position over the main altar.

The ceiling is to be in three panels. The first represents St. Peter receiving the keys from the Lord. The subject of the second is St. Peter curing the paralytic.

keys from the Lord. The subject of the second is St. Peter curing the paralytic, and the last one is the crucifixion of St. Peter. At the four corners of the ceiling large sized paintings of the Evangelists will complete the decorations. The walls will be newly freecoed in light gray, to brighten the church, which is always dark, there the church, which is always dark always glocky. brighten the church, which is always dark, almost gloomy, because of the high buildings about it. Seven hundred incandescent lamps will be placed throughout the building. Two sunbursts of 100 lights each will be hung fom the ceiling.

The present church was built around the old wooden mission dedicated in 1785, and the first building was not torn down until it became necessary to remove

and the first building was not torn down until it became necessary to remove it in order to finish the interior of the new

PHYSICIANS TO GO TO PANAMA.

About 300 From This Country Will Attend the Pan-American Medical Congress.

Dr. Ramon Guiteras of this city, secretary of the Pan-American Medical Congress, has nearly completed arrangements for the fourth annual meeting of that body in Panama from Jan. 2 to Jan. 6 next. It is expected that about 800 physicians from this country will attend, one party sailing from New York and another from New Orloans.

The Panama Government has appropriated \$25,000 for the entertainment of the delegates. After the congress ends most of the delegates are expected to attend the meeting of the Public Health Association in Havana, a week later.

The congress in Panama will discuss questions of hygiene largely and matters pertaining to quarantine. The afternoons will be devoted to scientific sessions and the mornings and evenings to trips and social functions. The programme in Panama will be a reception on the first day by President Amador of the Panama Residual to the formal opening session. by President Amador of the Panama Republic, and the formal opening session of the congress the same evening. On the second day there will be an excursion to the canal in the morning meetings of the various sections in the afternoon, and a banquet in the evening. On the third day there will be an excursion down the bay to Taboga Island, where a Panama breakfast will be served, scientific sessions in the afternoon and a ball in the evening. On the fourth day there will be an excursion to the United States Army barracks in the morning, section meetings

racks in the morning, section meetings in the afternoon and the formal closing session in the evening. One of the papers to be read at the meet-ing will be by Major L. L. Seaman, M. D., of this city, on "Japan's Preparation for War." It will embody some of his recent investigations at the seat of war in the Orient and will be entirely different in scope from the paper which he read in St. Louis and this city recently on Japan's

TROUBLED . COLD WATER CAMP. Candidate for President and National

wonderful medical success in war

Chairman Don't Like Each Other. Trouble has been brewing in the camp of the Prohibitionists, and so potent is the brew that on Dec. 15 next, when the national committee of the Prohibition party meets in Chicago, John G. Woolley, the Prohibition candidate for the Presidency in 1900, and editor of the Prohibitionist organ, the New Voice, and Oliver W. Stewart, chairman of the national committee. will practically be on trial before the committee.

Mr. Woolley in his paper, it is said, accused Chairman Stewart of "looting the treasury of the party in order to start a paper called the Citizen, published in Harriman, Tenn. It is said that \$13,000 was devoted to this enterprise, deemed futile by some and useful by others. At any rate, the partisans of the already existing Voice believed it would have been better to cut the money into that

to put the money into that.

Alfred L. Manierre of this city, chairman of the county committee, said yesterday:

"I understand that there is absolutely no charge of dishonesty or misappropria-tion of funds against Mr. Stewart. It is solely a question of whether he exercised sound judgment in the expenditure of a part of the campaign funds on the Citizen part of the campaign funds on the Citizen as a means of communicating with and arousing the interest and activity of members of the party. The increased vote of this year would seem to support his judgment. As to Dr. Swallow's expenses while touring the country, I think they were all paid by the party.

At the hearing before the national committee, it was said by Prohibitionists here yesterday, Mr. Woolley and Mr. Stewart will have to tell all about the enmity between the two tripods of the party. Time was when the men were very warm friends.

tween the two tripods of the party. Time was when the men were very warm friends, but of late they have fallen out, and in the last election Mr. Stewart, who was a member of the Illinois Legislature, failed of the charges started against him by Mr. Woolley. Now each of the men has his vertices and pathing less than strengers. partisans and nothing less than strenuous measures shortly to be taken can settle

he feud. King's Condolences to the Cesnolas.

Miss Louise di Cesnola, daughter of the ate Gen. Louis P. Cesnola, director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, received this elegram yesterday from the Italian Am-

His Majesty the King of Italy cables to me as follows: "I have been informed of the death of Gen. Di Cesnola, and I order you to convey to the family my profound and heart-felt condolences MATON DES PLANCHES.

Movements of Naval Vessels.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 24 .- The cruiser Chicago, flagship of the Pacific squadron, has sailed from San Juan for Santa Lucia on her way to the Pacific, and the cruiser San Francisco from Gibraltar for New York, via the Azores. The gunboat Quiros has arrived at Cavite.

Very remarkable pletures mark the Christmas of the Century Magazine with an orgy of color. Whether in color or in plain black the flamin goes of the first article are striking; so are the Boutet de Monvel children's costumes and the pictures of Alfons Mucha and Mr. Ivanowski. Then there are colored reproductions of paintings by George Inness and Winslow Homer, and Timothy Cole's woodcut. Andrew D. White begins his diplomati reminiscences in this number and Mrs. Alice Hegan Rice a new serial. There are six short stories on Christmas themes, some poems, and an article on purifying water by G. H. Grosvenor.